

FLORIDA ENERGY COMMISSION

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MEDIA ADVISORY **z**

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FLORIDA ENERGY COMMISSION'S THIRD MEETING TO BE HELD AT FLORIDA SOLAR ENERGY CENTER

COCOA, FL – The Florida Energy Commission (FEC) will meet May 11 in the Florida Solar Energy Center's H. George Carrison Auditorium. The Solar Energy Center is located at 1679 Clearlake Rd. in Cocoa. At 9 a.m., a tour of the Solar Energy Center will be available for all meeting attendees. The actual meeting will begin immediately after the tour, which will end at 10 a.m.

During the meeting, commissioners will focus on several topics, including the FEC's Climate Change Advisory Group's schedule to develop a state climate action plan, the greenhouse gas inventory process, alternative transportation fuels and the costs of renewable energy. Sen. Lee Constantine, the only commission member who also is a legislator, will give a Legislative wrap-up.

"Our most pressing issue is climate change," said FEC chairman Tommy Boroughs. "Members of the public have made it clear that they want us to formulate a state climate action plan. We will do everything we can to meet that challenge."

On May 8, the FEC's Climate Change Advisory Group will meet in Tampa as one of a series of meetings to develop a state climate action plan to submit as part of the full Commission's first set of annual recommendations, due to the Legislature Dec. 31. During the May 11 FEC meeting, Dr. Todd Sack, chairman of the Climate Change Advisory Group will apprise the full Commission of the advisory group's actions for developing a state action plan.

Meeting presenters will include Judi Greenwald from the Pew Center on Climate Change, Randy Strait of the Center for Climate Change Strategies, and Florida Solar Energy Center professional staff members Philip Fairey, Bob Reedy, Ali Raissi and Robin Vieira.

The meeting will take place in the Florida Solar Energy Center's Cocoa complex – one of the world's most energy efficient buildings. The office and lab buildings are designed to maximize the usable space on the building perimeter so daylight can illuminate the interior, and control interior air temperatures based on solar exposure. Many other readily available technologies are used to make this building a showpiece of how energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies can help the citizens of Florida save energy and money while enjoying more comfortable homes and commercial buildings.

About the Florida Solar Energy Center

The Florida Solar Energy Center, a research institute of the University of Central Florida, is the Legislatively-chartered State University System Type I energy research institute for the State of Florida. FSEC is the largest and most active state-supported renewable energy and energy efficiency research, development and training institute in the United States, attracting millions of dollars in external research contracts each year.

About the Florida Energy Commission

The Florida Energy Commission is a nine-member panel jointly appointed by the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives. It is charged with recommending to the Florida Legislature the best ways to secure Florida's energy future using the guiding principles of reliability, efficiency, affordability and diversity.

The Commission's immediate focus is on renewable energy sources, climate change, conservation, efficiency and generation and transmission to address Florida's long-term energy needs and goals. But a long-term goal is to take a look at all aspects of the many energy options available to Floridians.

By Dec. 31, the FEC will develop a report that will document its progress, and make its first set of annual recommendations designed to help guide the Florida Legislature in choosing the best practices and options for Florida's energy future.

Visit the Florida Energy Commission's Web site at www.floridaenergycommission.gov.

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